
Subject: Forum Guidelines: Your questions answered
Posted by [natalia](#) on Tue, 05 Jun 2012 20:04:49 GMT
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Hi and welcome to the Shapeways forum! 3D printing is a cool technology, but in the end it's the people who will really make it count. Thanks for joining us. If this is your first time here, check out the FAQs. Lots of answers to common questions can be found there.

The forum is where community members go to learn, create and inspire one another. It's an amazing place, and we want to keep it that way.

Read first. Then post

There's an incredible amount of knowledge and a wide range of people who hang out here. Read a few posts, get to know the tone and the humor. Once you do post, you'll have a much easier time getting or giving help. The more you engage with the community, the more you'll get out of the time you spend here.

Keep it human

Feel free to introduce yourself. Let us know who you are and what you're excited about. There are real humans behind all these screens, and that's a good thing!

Criticize constructively

Healthy debate and many discerning tastes are one of the best things about this community. But remember that not everything you say through text comes across with the smile, the laugh, or the good-natured sarcasm you may have intended. Take extra care to be (and sound) constructive. That said, if you see something that offends you, hit the report to moderator button and tell us why it offends you. Do not reply in retaliation, as this can make the problem worse.

Think before you post

Some things can be upsetting, but take a breath before you shoot back. If you're being demeaning, or are hurling personal attacks on others, you probably won't make many friends. Plus you run the risk of being banned. And that sucks. Please don't make us do that.

Run the boss test

We're not uptight, but we do need to make sure people feel comfortable. If you'd feel weird about your boss looking over your shoulder at whatever you're about to post, you probably shouldn't post it. For argument's sake, let's assume you've got a cool boss.

Think Global. Think Big

One of the most amazing things about the Shapeways community is that we're dispersed all over the world. Remember that sometimes things can get lost in translation, and so it's probably best to always give people the benefit of the doubt.

Intellectual Property

Upload only models you have created, or that you have the rights to. Please don't copy other users designs, it's not good karma and it may get you banned.

Feedback

We love feedback, so there is a [[https://www.shapeways.com/forum/index.php?t=i&cat=12§ion\[/url\]](https://www.shapeways.com/forum/index.php?t=i&cat=12§ion[/url])] to give feedback, to post suggestions and even complaints. Your first stop should be the Bug Reporting to report any bugs on the site or errors you see. The Suggestions section is for your improvements and idea, its a good idea to see if your question or issue has been raised already and post in that thread with your vote. That way we can see what topics have lots of votes. We check it regularly, so we know what's important to you.

Welcome and have fun!

Your moderators

Natalia, Michael, Stijn and Stony.
